

# **NEWS RELEASE**

**"For Immediate Release"**

December 26, 2019

## **CHRISTMAS EVE VEHICLE PURSUIT**

**WARRENTON** – Tuesday, December 24, 2019 – A deputy travelling north on Rt. 29/Eastern Bypass, outside of Warrenton, encountered a vehicle driving recklessly. At 9:22 p.m. the deputy conducted a traffic stop on a black dodge truck with out of state tags. As the deputy exited his cruiser and approached, the truck sped off.

The truck drove through the median and proceeded southbound on Rt. 29. The truck continued southbound at a high rate of speed, weaving in and out of traffic. A deputy successfully deployed a spike strip device in the Opal area in an attempt to terminate the pursuit. The truck drove over the device and continued southbound. The truck failed to negotiate the turn at the Opal interchange and drove off the roadway.

The truck continued to drive through a field for approximately 100 yards until it became stuck. The driver attempted to move the truck backward and forward while deputies commanded him to stop. The driver was able to move the truck again for approximately another 150 yards when he stopped and fled on foot.

With assistance from the Virginia State Police, deputies quickly established a perimeter around the scene. The driver was taken into custody a short time later on Avatar Way off of Opal Road. The driver was identified as a 16 year old male from Madison Heights, Virginia.

The driver was charged with reckless driving, felony eluding law enforcement, providing false ID to law enforcement, no driver's license, altered VIN, improper vehicle registration, failing to register a vehicle, and no insurance. The driver was held in a regional juvenile detention facility.

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